

**MINUTES**  
**STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES**  
**WORK SESSION**  
**August 16, 2007**

The State Board for Community and Junior Colleges (SBCJC) met at 6:00 p.m. at the Jackson Hilton in Jackson, Mississippi, on August 16, 2007.

**The following members were present:** Mrs. Patricia (Pat) Dickens, Mr. Henry (Bubba) Hudspeth, Mr. Max Huey, Mr. Napoleon Moore, Mr. Ed Perry, Mr. Bobby Steinriede, Mr. George Walker, and Mrs. Brenda Yonge. The following were absent: *Mr. Chip Crane, and Mr. Bruce Martin*

**SBCJC Staff present:** Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Dr. Jason Pugh, Mrs. Deborah Gilbert, Dr. Larry Day and Mrs. Janet Dominy.

**Guest present:** Dr. Reggie Sykes – Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL).

Mr. George Walker called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m.

Mr. Walker opened the meeting by welcoming Mr. Bobby Steinriede to the State Board.

Mr. Walker called on Dr. Stonecypher to discuss plans for the new SBCJC facility. Mr. Ray Smith of the State Board staff is in the process of getting plans on paper. Right now, the cost is estimated to be \$225 per square foot furnished. The total cost will be approximately \$6.5 or 6.7 million. The new facility would serve as a State Board Office as well as a Community College Center.

Mr. Walker asked if IHL was supportive of the new facility. It would give IHL more room for their expansion.

Dr. Stonecypher added that ITS has begun clearing the pine trees on a lot at the Education and Research Center in order to begin work on their new facility. Dr. Stonecypher added that the presidents of the community and junior colleges have been very supportive of the idea of a new SBCJC facility.

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert reviewed the **Finance** agenda items, as follows:

**Education Enhancement Fund Disbursements** for August of 2007, from **Funds 4080** and **4110** in the total amount of \$3,066,095. See "Finance Attachment 1a" of the August 2007 meeting minutes.

Dr. Stonecypher asked Mrs. Gilbert to explain the different funds for the benefit of the new Board members. She explained that there are three (3) major funds, but two (2) major funding sources currently. One source is the **State General Fund** and the other is the **Education Enhancement Fund**. The **Education Enhancement Fund** is comprised of two different funds: **Fund 4080** is the one cent sales tax money that was added when the legislature raised the state sales tax from 6% to 7%. The 1% increase was designated for education. The legislature appropriates each

year 14.41% of the 1% sales tax increase for community and junior colleges. **Fund 4110** is a discretionary education enhancement fund that was created to meet some additional needs. The legislature has discretion to disperse these additional funds. The community and junior colleges has been fortunate to receive about \$607,000. The state tax commission collects the sales tax and that money is deposited monthly into the state treasury and then the Department of Finance and Administration allocates the money out to those entities that receive the **Education Enhancement Funds**.

Mrs. Gilbert reported that the August **Education Enhancement Disbursements** for **Fund 4080** and **Fund 4110** were \$3,066,095. The sales tax collected in July was less than the amount needed; however, there was some money that was left over from the previous fiscal year, and they were able to make up the difference. These funds are described in **Attachment 1**.

**Attachment 2** describes purchasing approvals.

**Attachment 2a** is a contract between the State Board and Jobs for Mississippi Graduates, Inc. in the amount of \$250,000. The purpose for the funds is to be used for Dropout Prevention and Employability Skills. This serves current high school students. This is the third year that the State Board has sponsored this initiative. Dr. Stonecypher stated that Governor and Mrs. Barbour have asked the State Board to consider this each year. Workforce Funds are utilized to fund this contract.

**Attachment 2b** is a contract between the State Board and Copiah – Lincoln Community College for the support of the Mississippi Electronic Libraries Online (MELO). This contract is in the amount of \$65,000 and will be funded through fees that are assessed through the Mississippi Virtual Community College (MSVCC).

**Attachment 3a and 3b** are financial statements for the **General Fund 2291** and for **Special funds**. **Attachment 3a** is the financial statement of **Fund 2291** as of July 31, 2007 (FY 2007) which is in the lapse period. Approximately, \$6,000 will lapse and \$180,000 will carry forward for workforce purposes of the \$187,430 cash available.

**Attachment 3b** is a mixture of **Special Funds** with the majority of revenue flowing in for Career and Technical Education and Workforce Education. The major funding sources are from Federal Grants and federal Adult Basic Education. As of July 31, 2007, the balance was \$8.4 million. Approximately, \$8 million is for Workforce Education from the Unemployment tax that will carry forward into the next year.

**Attachment 3c** is the **General Fund** statement for FY08, and we have 93.88% of the budgeted funds remaining as of July 31, 2007. Cash in the amount of \$3.1million is available to expend for the first half of the year.

**Attachment 3d** is the **Special Funds** statement for FY08, and we have 96.98% of the budgeted funds remaining as of July 31, 2007.

Mr. Steinriede asked when the Board's fiscal year starts and ends. Mrs. Gilbert responded that our fiscal year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30. She added that right now we are operating in 2 fiscal years which is called the "lapse period".

Mrs. Gilbert called on Dr. Day to give the Capital Improvements Report. He referred the Board to **Attachment 4**. This report provides all of the capital improvement projects for all of the fifteen

(15) community colleges for the second quarter of 2007.

Mrs. Gilbert advised the Board that the Legislative Budget Hearing for the State Board Budget is scheduled for 2:25 pm on September 20, 2007. It will be the afternoon of the Thursday Board meeting. Dr. Stonecypher added that Mr. Walker and Dr. Cole would start the hearing.

Mr. Walker recognized Dr. Pugh for the Career/Technical Report. Dr. Pugh referred the Board to Exhibit A which deals with the administration of career programs within the Mississippi Department of Corrections. Dr. Pugh and Dr. West put together a detailed report on the Career Training Programs at the Mississippi Department of Corrections. They visited the facilities, the instructors, the classrooms as well as some of the inmates in the Women's Prison in Rankin County. The greatest challenge is the certificate that the inmate earns after completion of the program. They are issued a certificate from the Department of Corrections. This is not a very lucrative credential for employment or for further education.

We are currently looking at serving the 3 state correctional facilities and maybe later looking at the 11 regional facilities. There are currently 27 career programs in the 3 state facilities. The cost per participant varies by facility from \$1,362 to \$2,292. The cost depends of the particular facility, as well as, the particular program that is offered. Dr. Pugh and Dr. West were encouraged that the correctional programs promote students due to national skills testing. The programs are structured to be open entry and open exit. They lose some with parole and end of sentence.

Currently, over \$1 million is spent on salaries with 89% of those funds provided by MDE and 11% provided by MDOC. The administrative cost is not available at this time.

The third page of this report lists possible scenarios. It lists advantages, disadvantages, and keys to success. The second scenario would get the colleges more involved in the programs.

The last page lists recommendations if the Board decides to move forward with the movement of the MDOC career programs to the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges. It is not recommended to move the programs in the middle of a fiscal year.

Mr. Walker said that this would be breaking new ground where the regular workforce programs are already in place. Mr. Walker asked which of the three colleges would be involved. Dr. Pugh stated that it would include Jones County Junior College, Hinds Community College, and Mississippi Delta Community College. This could be lucrative for the presidents in the districts that are involved because there would be no facility or equipment expenses.

Dr. Stonecypher said that he has spoken with Dr. Jesse Smith at Jones County Junior Colleges about this possibility.

Mr. Perry asked the time frame to begin these programs. Dr. Pugh added that it would be best to start at the beginning of a fiscal year. All of the instructors are employees of the Department of Corrections. They would have to become either employees of the State Board or the individual colleges.

Dr. Pugh said that there needed to be a careful review of the programs that are offered.

Mr. Walker asked who would set the criteria for the curriculum. Dr. Pugh said they already use a statewide curriculum.

Mr. Walker asked what the next step will be. Dr. Pugh said that there needed to be a meeting with Dr. Bounds, the presidents of the colleges, and visits to the other prisons.

Dr. Stonecypher added that he had spoken with Governor Barbour concerning the possibility of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges taking over this program. Governor Barbour was very supportive.

Mrs. Dickens asked if additional personnel would be needed to administrate this program.

Dr. Stonecypher responded that either a part-time or full-time employee would be needed and that the Department of Education would need to provide funding for that position.

Mr. Hudspeth asked about the quality of the instructors that Dr. Pugh and Dr. West met. Dr. Pugh said that they had only visited one prison at this time, but that it appears that they have some high quality instructors. These instructors work an eight hour day and forty hours a week for twelve months of the year. The instructors are missing professional development and any interaction that keeps them in the educational mode.

Dr. Pugh continued with the Workforce Report. He referred the Board to Exhibit B. He stated that 2007 was a banner year with \$17,729,528.76 in workforce projects. Mr. Walker agreed. The cost per class and trainee has increased due to the increase in the salaries for instructors as well as equipment costs. This is the first time in years that the number of trainees in any category has exceeded the number of trainees in safety training.

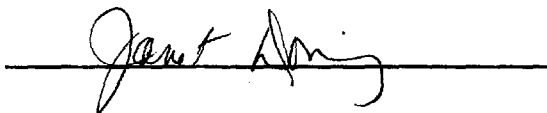
Mr. Walker added that workforce training is the biggest single impact that we have on economic development.

Mr. Steinriede asked what classes were involved in safety training. Dr. Pugh and Dr. Stonecypher explained that it included first-aid, CPR, safety training for truck drivers, and special training for certain occupations.

Mr. Walker asked if there were any additional items that needed to be addressed. There were none.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Recorded by:

A handwritten signature, likely "Janet Amis", is written over a horizontal line.